are mainly concentrated in decentralized sectors. The Government is not involved in setting up any projects in the textile sector. The funds in the textile sector are released to various implementing agencies under various schemes, which are also not state specific, on the basis of viability of the proposals received. Some of the important schemes being implemented in textile sector are:—

Sl.-Sector No.	Name of Scheme
1. Handlooms	Handlooms Export Scheme (HES) Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana Marketing Promotion Programme Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme Weavers' Welfare Scheme
2. Handicrafts	Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana Export Promotion Scheme Special Handicrafts Training Programme (SHTP) Bima Yojana for Handicrafts Artisans
3. Sericulture	Catalytic Development Programme
4. Cotton	Technology Mission on Cotton
5. Organised Sector	Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme
6. Export	Schemes for Integrated Textile Park

Development of handicrafts

1017. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the development of handicrafts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which are lagging behind the development of handicrafts and have not fixed targets for the development of handicrafts; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to promote handicrafts in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An assessment of the status of export of handicrafts was undertaken recently through Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH).

(b) The outcome of the assessment is as under:

(i) The export of handicrafts is growing at an average annual growth rate of 15%.

(ii) The major contributors to exports are: Embroidered and Crocheted goods (32.46)%; Art-Metal-ware (31.90%), shawls as Artware (28.45%) and Imitation Jewellery (28.41 %).

(iii) The share of Indian exports in global handicrafts trade is approximately 1.3%.

(iv) Central Region contributes 48% and Northern Region contributes about 35% of the total exports of Handicrafts from the country.

(c) Going by the performance in export, the Regions lagging behind are Eastern Region including NER (6.33%), Western Region (5.66%) and Southern Region (4.99%), and the target and export figures of Handicrafts are prescribed and maintained for the country as a whole and no State-wise targets are fixed.

(d) For the devebpment and promotion of handicrafts in the country including the areas lagging behind, various schemes are being implemented which include Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for cluster development, Design & Technology Upgradation, Marketing and Support Services, Export Promotion, Special Handicrafts Training Project for skill upgradation, Credit Guarantee Scheme, Research & Development, etc.

In addition, to promote handicrafts from the Eastern, North Eastern, Southern & Western Regions, diversification of product segment by identification of potential crafts from these regions is being undertaken.

Technology Mission for Sericulture

1018. SHRI .B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering launching a Technology Mission for Sericulture industry in India;